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**AND Solutions, LLC**

# Press Release – Jan 1, 2015

## Ubers.org Shuts Down, Community Relocates

One of the largest hacking-related MyBB boards closes its doors

After more than three years of activity, 135,000 member registrations, and 533,000 posts in over 100,000 topics, Ubers.org has gone dark. The hacking forum was classified as one of MyBB's biggest boards and frequently referred to as a Hackforums alternative. The administrator, crazy4cs, announced on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, that Ubers would be closing down due to an inability to devote the time necessary to the project, and to prevent deterioration of the community's quality. crazy4cs noted that a staff member from the community, Albus, would be starting a new forum using a new platform with involvement from other team members. While the new forum, VSecurity, was officially sanctioned, crazy4cs stated that items such as posts, threads, and other user data would not be transferred.

On January 1, 2015, after a two-day notice, Ubers.org's index has been replaced with a static html page with a farewell from the administrator and direction to the new community. While the site's pending closure was announced in September, it was not until December 30<sup>th</sup> that crazy4cs officially declared an official end date, bringing shock to some straggling members. After the announcement in September, VSecurity launched quietly, and slowly migrated members to the new forum, powered by NodeBB. After staffing change finalization and initial configuration the forum began to bring in users one by one, teaching them the new platform and assisting them in migrating any desired posts. Members were met with changes in policies designed to promote discussion on topics from a security professional scope, while staying true to the hacker vibe that so many Ubers posts embodied.

Unlike Ubers, VSecurity promotes organic growth, with its content being public facing to ensure the freedom of information and knowledge. Visitors are no longer met with hidden content or demands to register and make five posts before seeing a topic's message. Instead, VSecurity deploys unobtrusive advertisements on their website to guests to offset server costs, while providing uninhibited access. The content and categories of VSecurity are extremely similar to those on Ubers, though search and navigation have been subjected to change. Instead of utilizing unnecessary and over-categorization of content, VSecurity provides generalized categories for postings to be made inside of and a tagging feature to enable fine-tuned searching and labeling of posts to assist visitors in finding exactly what they are looking for.

While there are many differences between Ubers and VSecurity, members have migrated en mass and are singing praises. While the branding and layout may have changed, much of the original community has embraced the shift, pleased to have an administrator and forum team able to handle issues as they arise and guide them down the path towards the success of the previous generation, and a new online home. The forum team is hopeful for the future, and foresees great things in the days to come.

As the new year dawns, the era of Ubers comes to an end, and the age of VSecurity begins.

VSecurity may be accessed at <https://www.vsec.co>

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